

Example of
nameclassstudordate
of submission
creative writing



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Mumford in his work *The city in history*, addresses the various stages in human civilization. The development of the various cities in Greece and ancient Rome. His work explores on the various courses the two civilizations took, the circumstances influencing the various courses and the fate that these civilizations suffered.

Mumford in his works reckons that a city has to be founded on the basic humanity to be found in people. In the Hellenist city, Mumford observes that there were to be no secrets between people, professionally or even between friends. There were to be no feelings of inferiority from anyone. This helped in shaping a society that had a respect for each other and one that valued peaceful co existence. On the contrary, Rome pursued a system of governance where the individual was greatly constrained in action thought and creativity. From the studies of Plato, Aristotle and Emerson on the need for the whole society to contribute towards the symmetry sought. In this regard they rightly pointed out that no single unit could exist on its own as the interaction, for instance, between Athens and other cities had an influence on both. In this connection the Greece cities were more enduring than the roman empire. This can be directly connected to the emphasis put on the development of the deeper person values in the ancient Greek, rather than a strong system of centralized control adopted by the Romans. The apparent success enjoyed by the Roman empire was short lived as nothing enduring held it in place. once the centralized system of control collapsed, the empire could not rise from the fall. In sharp contrast to Greek cities which held their identities in the people and as such would always preserve their heritage through them.

A polis as envisioned by Mumford is a city for human. In this regard a city
<https://assignbuster.com/example-of-nameclasstutordate-of-submission-creative-writing/>

where people live and exploit their humanity harmoniously. In the emergence of the polis, traits such as autonomy of the various smaller towns was well respected, there was little emphasis on building walls around their towns as risk of attack was minimal, there was interaction between these settlements as can be established by the similarity of the tools they employed. While the autonomy of the individual settlements was well respected, these factors indicate there was some amount of constructive cooperation and that the cities managed to maintain peaceful co-existence. The dehumanized city in this respect, Rome, is a huge contrast to the polis the traits displayed of it include the sticking to traditions and enforcing them strongly. While this portrayed strong social orderliness, the people were largely discontent and disillusioned. The civilization expended from Rome was shallow as it mainly dwelt upon the administrative and the whole subjugation of their subjects. The practice of violence was wide spread with people becoming deeply accustomed to witnessing executions. The public delight these spectacles offered was deceptive as personal consciences were only accustomed to it as the norm but not approved from within as appropriate. Thus the dehumanized city can be said to be highly mechanical and non considerate.